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Last chance for assistance through the watershed project

Sampling for fish and insects in Elk River occurred in August

Website on the Elk River Water Quality Project is up and running

CRP rental rates have increased by approximately 33%

Peters Sediment Basin Going In

Construction has recently started on a sediment basin at the Loren Peters residence. The sediment basin will collect runoff from the open feedlot. Manure solids will settle out in the basin and water will exit the basin through a picket fence. The Peters's have been considering alternatives to address the lot runoff for awhile and recently partnered with the Elk River Water Quality Project to get this project started. According to Loren, he is "concerned about pollution and happy with the

help available." The "help" Loren is referring to is financial assistance to cover 75% of the cost of the project. Funding for the project comes from the Iowa Watershed Improvement Fund and the Watershed Protection Fund. Due to the funding being utilized and the estimated cost, the project had to be publicly bid through the Clinton Soil & Water Conservation District. Through the bid process,

the project was awarded by the District to Oberbreckling Construction of Onslow, IA.

Loren Peters looking over the sub-grade laid for the basin



Project Gets an Extension

Wanted: People who live in and want to conserve our natural resources in Elk River Wa-

tershed! A one year extension has been granted for the project which is now scheduled to end in

September of 2008. ***This is the last year and last call*** for 75% cost share for eligible practices.

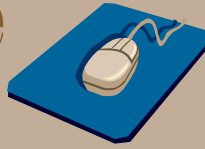
Monitoring Completed on Elk River

Sampling fish and insects in Elk River by staff from the University Hygienic Laboratory for the Water Monitoring and Assessment Section of IDNR occurred in early

August. Two sites were sampled, one near Camp Miss Elk Ton and the other near Andover. Results of the sampling will be compiled into a report which should be

completed by March of 2008. Results of this monitoring will be compared to previous samplings to determine the current biological status of Elk River.

Check out Project Website



Within the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) website you can now find information about water quality projects located throughout the state. The water quality project websites, including a site on Elk River, are located online at: www.iowadnr.gov/water/watershed/index.html. From the watershed home page, you can click on the "find a project" but-

ton to the right, or on the "find an improvement project" link in the left-side navigation bar, or on a link at the bottom of the home page. Here you will find information about the projects including: basic facts, news, funding, success stories, reports and publications, and maps of each of project. The Section 319 program of the U.S. Environ-

mental Protection Agency provides IDNR with funding for non-point source pollution programs which includes these water quality projects seen across the state. IDNR generally funds these local watershed projects in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Considering CRP?

If you have been considering installing filter strips, riparian buffers, waterways or wetlands through the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) now is a good time to enroll. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced in August new soil rental rates that

are approximately 33% higher than the old rates. The new rates, including incentives and maintenance rates (that apply on some practices) range from \$122.80 to \$293.20 in Clinton County and \$126.20 to \$271.40 in Jackson County. If you are interested in a CRP

practice, contact Leah Sweely, Elk River Watershed Coordinator or your local NRCS office to discuss the potential CRP practice you have been thinking of. We can help you determine the location of the practice and estimate your annual rental rate.

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